India using Transfer of Technology (ToT). Manufacturer Recommended List of Spares (MRLS) is an integral part of every contract and the requisite spares are supplied by the Manufacturer.

Officers of Judge Advocate General branch in disturbed areas

- 970. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any officers from the Judge Advocate General branch of the Army are posted in areas notified as "disturbed areas" under the Armed Force (Special Powers) Act, 1958;
 - if so, the total number of postings and area-wise break-up thereof; and
 - if not, the reasons therefor?

Written Answers to

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) 10 officers from the Judge Advocate General branch of the Army are posted in "disturbed areas" notified under the Armed Force (Special Powers) Act, 1958, as per the following:

| Sl. No. | Location | Number of officers |
|---------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Bomdila | 01 |
| 2. | Daporizo | 01 |
| 3. | Dimapur | 02 |
| 4. | Guwahati | 02 |
| 5. | Mantripukhri | 01 |
| 6. | Mashimpur | 01 |
| 7. | Tezpur | 02 |
| 24 | | |

Joint venture with Russia for anti-tank shell production

- 971. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to set up joint venture with Russia for production of anti-tank shells in India;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh and urgent steps taken by Government to meet the shortage of this category of ammunition in the inventory of the armoured regiments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) In March 2014, the Government has concluded a contract with Joint Stock Company "Rosoboronexport' of Russia for procurement of 42,000 rounds of fully formed AMK 339 tank rounds. Besides this, the Ordnance Factory Board, Kolkata has entered into 'Transfer of Technology' contract with Joint Stock Company "Rosoboronexport" of Russia for indigenous manufacture of AMK 339 tanks rounds.

Preparedness of our defence forces

- 972. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the status of vacant posts under the three arms of the defence force, both combat and non-combat, post-wise, and since when are they vacant;
 - (b) the efforts made to fill up these vacancies at the earliest;
- (c) whether our defence forces have enough explosives and warfare equipments to withstand a war;
- (d) the details of steps taken to continuously monitor preparedness of our defence forces; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to make defence personnel mentally tough and capable to withstand pressures and tackle any external war at any moment and under any situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Details of the shortage of the personnel in the Armed Forces are as under:

| Army (As on 1.7.2014) | | Navy | | Air Force (As on 1.11.2014) | |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Officer* | Other Ranks | Officer* | Sailor | Officer* | Airmen |
| 7989 | 26928 | 1499 | 11631 | 357 | 2951 |
| | | (As on | (As on | | |
| | | 1.11.2014) | 1.8.2014) | | |

^{*} Excluding medical and dental branch.